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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/728,665	12/01/2000	Thileepan Subramaniam	70990067-2	5559

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EXAMINER

TRAN, DOUGLAS Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2624

DATE MAILED: 05/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/728,665

Applicant(s)

SUBRAMANIAM, THILEEPAN

Examiner

Douglas Q. Tran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11-14 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12/01/00 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 8 is objected to because of the following informality: "diver" from line 2 of claim 8 should be changed to "driver". Appropriate correction is required.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because the references are labeled with the letters (i.e., M, M1, M2, C, D, P...) from figures 1 and 2 are not mentioned in the specification. The Examiner suggests that each of the letter references should be changed to a whole word or a group of words so that the Examiner will easily identify the particular parts in the structure of the system.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Misner (US Patent No. 6,570,668 B1).

As to claim 1, Misner teaches a method for enabling a computer (i.e., a computer system in fig. 1) to select a set of printer driver settings (i.e., from a printer driver program 14 in fig. 1) for a printing application (10 in fig. 1, col. 2, lines 1-4 describes that the printing application is

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either a word processing or spreadsheets or a database or a graphic image creation or the Adobe Photoshop “col. 2, line 45” or the Adobe Acrobat “col. 2, line 63”), wherein sets of printer driver settings have been created and stored (i.e., it would be understood that the printer driver “14 in fig. 1” stores sets of the printer driver settings of the printer(s) “18 in fig. 1, i.e., a common settings such as the paper type and size setting, color setting, trays setting...” and provides a particular set of settings to a particular printing application of the applications “col. 2, lines 1-6” for a user setting with his print job), each set being attached with a respective label (i.e., a name of the database file, col. 2, lines 9-10) illustrating its general aspect (col. 2, lines 13-16 describes that the printer driver creates the file “or database file” including a particular set of the settings for each printing application name, and each database file is labeled with the name “col. 2, lines 9-10” during the printer driver searching), comprising the steps of:

selecting a first label (i.e., a name of a database file, which would be considered as the first label, is corresponding with the user's the selected printing application “col. 2, lines 1-2” and with the printer driver operating instructions “i.e., a set of printer driver settings” “col. 2, lines 9-10”) from a list of these respective labels (col. 2, lines 1-10 describes that since the user selects one particular printing application of the applications to desire a print with a set of the printing settings corresponding with that selected application, the name of the database file is inherently selected because the printer driver “14 in fig. 1” obtained and searches for that name of the database file “col. 2, lines 8-10”. Thus, the name of the database file for that particular printing application, which would be different with the names of other database files for other printing applications, and which would be considered as the first label among a list of labels to be selected by the printer driver),

searching the stored sets of printer driver settings for one set whose respective label conforms to the first label (The printer driver “18 in fig. 1” stores sets of printer driver settings for a number of the printing applications “i.e., col. 2, lines 3-4: a word processing, spreadsheets, a database, a graphic image creation; col. 2, line 45: the Adobe Photoshop; col. 2, line 63: the Adobe Acrobat”. Thus, col. 2, lines 6-10 describes that the printer driver program “14 in fig. 1” only searches for the name of database file “i.e., the first label” when the user selects the print settings with the particular application. Thus, the database file, which is searched, includes the desired set of printer driver settings for the opened print application),

defining the conforming printer driver settings for as current printer driver settings for the printing application (fig 2 indicates “YES” in the condition of “name found”, if the name of the file is found after the box of “update file if necessary” or the box of “create file”, then the printer driver modified to its operation based on that name. Thus, the predetermined or new name for the database file is defined for as current printer driver settings with the opened printing application before printing. Furthermore, col. 2, lines 10-16 also describes that if the printer driver does not locate this file, then it creates the file by populating it with headings and application names. Thus, the database file contains its name to define a current printer driver settings for the currently opened printing application. Alternatively, the user has capability to modify for defining the database file “col. 2, lines 19-21”. For example, col. 2, lines 45-61, Adobe PhotoShop just allows each print job to contain only one page “col. 2, lines 45-46”; col. 2, lines 55-61, the user opens and modifies the database file with a new additional setting of “No journal” to the PhotoShop. Thus, the set of the current printer driver settings is defined to be

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specific to Adobe PhotoShop including a common settings “i.e., a the paper type and size setting, color setting, trays setting...” and a specific setting of “No journal”).

As to claim 2, Misner discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and Misner further teaches of defining the current printer settings includes the step of editing the conforming printer driver settings according to requirements of the printing application (col. 2, lines 45-61, because the printing application of Adobe PhotoShop just allows each print job to contain only one page “col. 2, lines 45-46”, col. 2, lines 55-61, the user opens and edits the database file by entering “No journal” to this file. Thus, the set of the current printer driver settings is defined to be specific to Adobe PhotoShop including a setting of “No journal”).

As to claim 3, Misner discloses every feature discussed in claim 2, and Misner further teaches the confirming printer driver settings are modified through a printer driver dialog box displayed by the computer (col. 2, lines 5-6 describes that the application accesses the printer driver through the graphic device interface 12; and col. 2, lines 55-59 describes that the user opens the database file and enters application’s executable name to this file. Thus, the confirming printer driver settings would be modified through a printer driver dialog box displayed by the computer).

As to claim 4, Misner discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and Misner further teaches a first set of printer driver settings is defined to be specific to a particular printing application (i.e., Adobe PhotoShop) (col. 2, lines 45-61: Adobe PhotoShop just allows each print job to contain only one page “col. 2, lines 45-46”. Thus, the set of printer driver settings is defined to be specific to Adobe PhotoShop including a common settings and a specific setting of “No journal”).

As to claim 5, Misner discloses every feature discussed in claim 4, and Misner further teaches filename of the printing application (i.e., the name of the database file is searched by the printer driver “col. 2, lines 7-9”) is piggybacked to the first set of printer driver settings such that the first set of printer driver settings is defined to be specific to the particular printing application (i.e., Adobe PhotoShop) (col. 2, lines 45-61: Adobe PhotoShop just allows each print job to contain only one page “col. 2, lines 45-46”). Thus, the database file name modified from the user is piggybacked to the set of printer driver settings for Adobe PhotoShop including a common settings and a specific setting of “No journal”).

5. Claims 6-9, 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gase et al. (US Patent No. 5,580,177).

As to claim 6, Gase discloses a network (col. 3, line 4) for enabling sets of public printer driver settings being shared out (i.e., printer driver library 38 “fig. 1” for storing the printer driver procedure “col. 4, lines 1-2” that is shared by the printer driver procedure 26 in the client computers 10, 12 and 14 “fig. 1” in which each client processor can apply the printer driver procedure “col. 3, lines 17-22”), comprising:

a host computer (i.e., a file server 16 in fig. 1) having a public memory unit (i.e., a memory 34 “fig. 1” would be considered as a public memory unit because this memory locates in the file server) for storing sets of public printer driver settings (i.e., printer/driver library 38 in fig. 1; col. 3, lines 61-62 describes that the printer/driver table 36 is used to access a printer driver procedure stored in printer/driver library 38; it is to be understood that each printer driver procedure is required for each of printer models “col. 3, line 63 to col. 4, line 2”. Thus, each

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printer driver procedure from the sets of public printer driver settings "printer/driver library 38" would be the set of print settings of each printer, and provide to the user "i.e., a client processor 10 in fig. 1" for setting print attribute to the print job on the application which will be discussed below); and

at least one client computer (i.e., a client processor 10 in fig. 1) connected to the host computer (i.e., the file server) via the network (col. 3, lines 3-4), wherein upon a printing application being fired in the client computer (box 70 in fig. 3a and col. 6, lines 5-6 describe that the client processor 10 requests a print job from the printer utility, which would be considered as a printing application), the client computer retrieves an appropriate set of public printer driver settings from the public storage area by calling the host computer (box 78 in fig. 3a and col. 6, lines 13-15 describes that the updated *printer driver procedure* 26 from the printer/driver library 38 of the file server 16, is down-loaded into the client processor 10 after the client processor requests a print job "col. 6, lines 5-6". Thus, the client processor would clearly retrieves an appropriate set of public printer driver settings from the public storage area by communicating with the file server),

(it is noted that the client processor 10 requests a print job from the printer utility "col. 6, lines 5-6". The print job, which is generated from the printing application, contains the printer driver settings how to match with the properties of the printer "col. 3, lines 18-22". Col. 6, lines 6-15 describes that the file server responses by providing the updated printer driver 26 "i.e., the set of printer driver settings" into the client processor 10 from the printer/driver library 38 in the memory 34 of the file server in a case of the printer driver procedure 26 "or the set of printer driver settings" of the client processor 10 is necessary to be modified).

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As to claim 7, Gase discloses every feature discussed in claim 6, and Gase further teaches that the host computer (the server 16 in fig. 1) further has a host private memory unit (the printer/driver library 38 in fig. 1) for storing sets of private printer driver settings for administrators of the host computer (col. 4, lines 27-32 describes that the system administrator can enable a printer driver to be loaded onto client processor 14 "fig. 1", and uploaded into the printer/driver library 38. Thus, the printer/driver library 38, which would be considered as the host computer's the private memory unit, would be the private memory unit for the administrators' the private printer driver settings).

As to claim 8, Gase discloses every feature discussed in claim 6, and Gase further teaches that the client computer (10 in fig. 1) has a client memory unit for storing sets of private printer driver settings (i.e., the client processor 10 has the printer driver procedure 26, which would be sets of private printer driver settings, would be inherently stored in the memory of the client processor).

As to claim 9, Gase discloses every feature discussed in claim 8, and Gase further teaches that each set of public printer driver settings (i.e., each of the printer drivers from the printer/driver library 38 in fig. 1) or private printer driver settings is attached with a respective label (i.e., driver A or B from the printer/driver library 38 of the server 16 in fig. 1) that indicates its general aspect (col. 3, line 1 to col. 4, line 2 describes that each of the printer driver procedures is stored in the printer/driver library 38 "i.e., public printer driver settings" in the server and each of the printer driver procedures is required for each printer model. Thus, each of the printer drivers would be labeled such as a driver A or a driver B... "38 in fig. 1").

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As to claim 15, Gase discloses every feature discussed in claim 6, and Gase further teaches a printer (18 in fig. 1) connected to the host computer (16 in fig. 1), wherein the client computer (10 in fig. 1) prints to the printer via the network (col. 3, lines 5-10).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gase et al. as applied to claim 9, in combination with Weinlander (US Patent No. 5,991,858).

As to claim 10, Gase discloses every feature discussed in claim 9.

Although Gase teaches the client memory unit (i.e., the printer driver procedure 26 that is inherently stored in the memory of the client processor 10 in fig. 1), Gase does not teach the client memory unit has a plurality of private storage area for the users, a first user being able to access a personal private storage area.

Weinlander, in the same field of endeavor "data storage system", the client memory unit (fig. 1; col. 2, lines 60-62) has a plurality of private storage area for the users (i.e., user memory areas to users A and B in the figure), a first user (i.e., a user A in the figure) being able to access a personal private storage area (i.e., the memory area for the user A in the address area from 8000h to 8FFFh has been assigned "col. 3, lines 17-25" so that the user being able to access his personal private storage area).

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It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the storage system of Gase for having a plurality of private storage area for the users and the user being able to access his personal private storage area as taught by Weinlander. The suggestion for modifying the storage system of Gase can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth above by Weinlander because the modified storage system would increase the efficiency of the security operation system by accessing only the application programs of the entered user on his private storage area. Such a modification allows the operation system to protect a private memory from unauthorized reading and writing interventions in the memory.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 11-14 are objected.

Claim 11 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim 6, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As to claim 11, the prior art such as Gase et al. (US Patent No. 5,580,177) teaches the printer driver procedure, which is provided by the server, is used by the user from the print application; and Weinlander (US Patent No. 5,991,858) teaches the memory unit has a plurality of private storage areas which are assigned to the users for accessing only the applications on their personal private storage areas. However, either Gase or Weinlander, taken either singly or in combination, does not teach: "the user creates *a personal list that includes labels of all the sets*

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of public printer driver settings and labels of those sets stored in the personal private storage area". The above distinct feature renders this claim allowable.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4857 or E-mail address is Douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Douglas Q. Tran
May 10, 2004

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tranlong", written in black ink.